

## Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 173197

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

FOLLOWING REPEAT CAPE TOWN 0893 ACTION DEPT INFO DURBAN

DAR ES SALAAM JOHANNESBURG LISBON LUANDA LUSAKA LOURENCO

MARQUES PRETORIA BLANTYRE AUGUST 2ND

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0393

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, PFOR, SF, US, AO, MZ

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER EXPRESSES SAG CONCERN ABOUT

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE OVER FUTURE GOVERNMENT IN

MOZAMBIQUE

1. SUMMARY: SA FONMIN MULLER HAS EXPRESSED TO AMBASSADOR SAG'S DEEP CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBILITY THAT A MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED OR DOMINATED BY FRELIMO COULD BE INFLUENCED BY COMMUNIST POWERS TO OPEN MOZAMBIQUE PORTS TO THEIR WARSHIPS. MULLER ASKED AMBASSADOR TO CONVEY THIS EXPRESSION OF CONCERN TO WASHINGTON AND REQUESTED TO BE INFORMED OF USG'S THINKING ON THIS MATTER. END SUMMARY.

2. AT REQUEST OF FONMIN MULLER, AMBASSADOR MET WITH HIM AND FOREIGN SECRETARY FOURIE JULY 31. MULLER SAID DEVELOP-

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MENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA IN GENERAL AND IN MOZAMBIQUE

IN PARTICULAR ARE OF CONCERN TO SAG. IT SEEMED ONLY A QUESTION OF TIME BEFORE PORTUGUESE AFRICAN TERRITORIES BECAME INDEPENDENT, AND IT APPEARED INEVITABLE FRELIMO WOULD COME TO POWER IN MOZAMBIQUE.

3. SINCE COUP IN PORTUGAL, PRIME MINISTER VORSTER AND HE HAD EMPHASIZED THAT "SOUTH AFRICA EXTENDS THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP TO ALL ITS NEIGHBORS, WHETHER THEY ARE BLACK OR WHITE." (FYI: STATE PRESIDENT FOUACHE MADE SAME POINT IN HIS ADDRESS AT OPENING SESSION OF SA PARLIAMENT AUGUST 2. END FYI.) SA READY TO WORK AMICABLY WITH WHOEVER IN CONTROL IN MOZAMBIQUE, BUT DOES NOT RPT NOT KNOW WHAT ATTITUDE OF FRELIMO-CONTROLLED GOVERNMENT WILL BE. SA HOPED NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD BE STABLE AND SELL-INTEENTIONED, BUT IF IT TOOK AGGRESSIVE STEPS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA, SAG WOULD REACT ACCORDINGLY.

4. SAG, MULLER SAID, IS WORRIED ABOUT INFLUENCE THAT COMMUNIST COUNTRIES HAVE WITH LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND WONDERS IF COMMUNISTS WILL ENCOURAGE NEW BLACK-DOMINATED GOVERNMENTS IN MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA TO UNDERTAKE AGGRESSION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA.

5. MULLER THEN GOT TO SPECIFIC POINT HE WANTED TO MAKE. SAG WORRIED, AND BELIEVED USG MAY SIMILARLY BE CONCERNED, ABOUT POSSIBILITY THAT MOZAMBIQUE PORTS WILL BE OPENED TO NAVAL VESSELS OF COMMUNIST POWERS. CABORA BASSA AND AVAILABILITY OF MOZAMBIQUE PORTS TO GOODS TO AND FROM SA ARE IMPORTANT TO SA, BUT NOT VITAL. FAR MORE IMPORTANT, AND CAUSING SAG DEEP CONCERN, IS POSSIBLE PRESENCE OF COMMUNIST NAVAL BASES IN LOURENCO MARQUES, BERIA, AND NACALA.

6. MULLER SAID THAT DURING HIS "USEFUL TALK" WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER A YEAR AGO, THE SECRETARY HAD SAID USG WATCHING SOUTHERN AFRICAN SITUATION CLOSELY AND WOULD GIVE IT EVEN MORE ATTENTION IF EVENTS WARRANTED. MULLER INTIMATED THAT PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES DID INDEED CALL FOR THE CLOSEST ATTENTION OF INTERESTED PARTIES. HE WANTED TO CONVEY TO WASHINGTON SAG'S CONCERN AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW USG'S THOUGHTS REGARDING WHAT HE HAD CONVEYED TO AMBASSADOR.  
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7. AMBASSADOR RESPONDED THAT SITUATION VERY FLUID IN PAT'S. HE RECOUNTED RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN MOZAMBIQUE AND NOTED THAT APPARENTLY FRELIMO'S POSITION IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY STRONGER. HOWEVER, WE ARE UNSURE OF EXACTLY WHAT A FRELIMO-DOMINATED GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE WOULD BE TOWARD WEST, HOW RESPONSIVE IT WOULD BE TO COMMUNIST INFLUENCE AND WHAT IT MIGHT DO REGARDING MOZAMBIQUE PORTS. AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED

OUR LACK OF LEVERAGE WITH LIBERATION GROUPS, THEN SAID HE UNDERSTOOD SOME BLACK AFRICAN LEADERS WERE COUNSELLING FRELIMO NOT TO LET THEMSELVES BECOME TOO DEPENDENT ON COMMUNISTS.

8. MULLER SAID HE HAD TALKED TO MALAWI'S PRESIDENT BANDA ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO. BANDA HAD TOLD HIM THAT NYERERE AND KAUNDA WERE "TRYING TO ADVISE" FRELIMO NOT TO MOVE TOO PRECIPITANTLY TOWARD TOTAL RELIANCE ON COMMUNISTS. HOWEVER, MULLER REITERATED TO AMBASSADOR THAT SITUATION IN PAT'S NEEDS TO BE GIVEN CLOSEST ATTENTION. HE EXPRESSED AGAIN HIS DESIRE TO PASS ON TO WASHINGTON SAG'S CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF COMMUNIST BASES IN MOZAMBIQUE AND IMPLICATIONS THIS WOULD HAVE NOT ONLY FOR SOUTH AFRICA, BUT ALSO FOR CAPE SEA ROUTE AND FOR WESTERN INTERESTS IN INDIAN OCEAN. HURD. UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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